

Press Release : 18 September 2017

ICC President meets with His Holiness Pope Francis at the Vatican

ICC-CPI-20170918-PR1333



©Servizio Fotografico - L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

The President of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Judge Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi, was received by His Holiness Pope Francis at the Vatican on Friday 15 September 2017. Board member of the Trust Fund for Victims (TFV), Felipe Michelini, joined the delegation on the visit to the Vatican.

President Fernández briefed His Holiness on the Court's achievements and challenges in fighting impunity for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. She underlined that the Court's mandate is not only intended to bring perpetrators of these crimes before justice but also seeks to ensure a voice to victims in the proceedings as well as an opportunity for them to seek reparation for the harm suffered.

Part of icc.cpi.int press release

2017

©Servizio Fotografico - L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

President Fernández thanked Pope Francis for his leadership to support peace, development and the protection of those most vulnerable, goals to which the Court also sought to contribute through its justice efforts. She explained that the Court has come far during 15 years of operations, with investigations in nine countries and several cases finished or on trial for crimes such as the recruitment of child soldiers, sexual violence in conflict, attacks against the civilian population and the destruction of cultural and religious property. She also referred to the thousands of victims participating in proceedings or seeking reparation, and hundreds of thousands of people having benefitted from